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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3102

YVETTE HERRELL  
2ND DISTRICT, New Mexico  
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT  
AND REFORM  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

May 26, 2022

Hector Balderas  
New Mexico Attorney General  
408 Galisteo Street  
Villagra Building  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Attorney General Balderas,

I write to respectfully request that you partner with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to help prevent robocall scams and spoofing schemes in New Mexico and the United States. As of May 19, 2022, thirty-six states and the District of Columbia have joined a Memoranda of Understanding with the FCC to help investigate these harmful practices against consumers.<sup>1</sup>

These partnerships have already yielded effective results. In March of 2021, in cooperation with the Texas Attorney General, the FCC investigated and fined telemarketers for their illegal robocall spoofing campaign. The fine was the largest in FCC history at \$225 million for nearly 1 billion robocalls placed.<sup>2</sup> Adding New Mexico to this list would be a big step further in ensuring nationwide cooperation in the fight to end the scourge of phone-based scams and would signal to the people of New Mexico that these operations are unacceptable and cannot continue.

Last year, Americans received *50.5 billion* robocalls, a truly staggering number even with the implementation of robocall spoofing prevention technology last June.<sup>3</sup> Even worse, nearly 60 million Americans fell victim to phone scams in 2021, totaling an estimated \$29.8 billion in personal losses.<sup>4</sup> It is imperative that these illegal robocalls come to an end, as they present a significant harm to consumers and take advantage of hard-working people across New Mexico and the United States.

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<sup>1</sup> Federal Communications Commission, "[FCC-State Robocall Investigation Partnerships](#)," May 19, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Federal Communications Commission, "[FCC Fines Telemarketer \\$225 Million for Spoofed Robocalls](#)," March 18, 2021

<sup>3</sup> PR Newswire, "[U.S. Phones Were Hit by More Than 50 Billion Robocalls in 2021, Says YouMail Robocall Index](#)," January 6, 2022.

<sup>4</sup> Truecaller Insights, "[2021 U.S. Spam & Scam Report](#)," June 28, 2021.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please respond by June 3, 2022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Yvette Herrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "Y".

Yvette Herrell,  
Member of Congress  
New Mexico, Second Congressional District